

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A honeycomb carrier for an exhaust gas-cleaning catalyst  
~~wherein, which is a honeycomb carrier to support a catalyst to clean an exhaust gas,~~  
~~characterized in that~~ the material for the honeycomb carrier is an aluminum magnesium titanate sintered product obtained by firing at from 1,000 to 1,700°C a raw mixture comprising:

100 parts by mass, as calculated as oxides, of a mixture comprising a Mg-containing compound, an Al-containing compound and a Ti-containing compound in the same metal component ratio as the metal component ratio of Mg, Al and Ti in an aluminum magnesium titanate represented by the empirical formula  $Mg_xAl_{2(1-x)}Ti_{(1+x)}O_5$  (wherein  $0 < x < 1$ )[[,]]; and  
from 1 to 10 parts by mass of an alkali feldspar represented by the empirical formula  $(Na_yK_{1-y})AlSi_3O_8$  (wherein  $0 \leq y \leq 1$ ).

- 2-3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The honeycomb carrier ~~for an exhaust gas-cleaning catalyst~~ according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 3~~ Claim 1, ~~which has having~~ a wall thickness of in a range of from 0.05 to 0.6 mm, a cell density of from in a range of 15 to 124 cells/cm<sup>2</sup>, a porosity of the partition wall in a range of from 20 to 50%, and a thermal expansion coefficient of at most  $3.0 \times 10^{-6} K^{-1}$ .

5. (Currently Amended) The honeycomb carrier ~~for an exhaust gas-cleaning catalyst~~ according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 4~~ Claim 1, wherein the catalyst ~~contains~~ comprises an alkali metal or alkaline earth metal component to remove NOx in the exhaust gas.

6. (Currently Amended) The honeycomb carrier ~~for an exhaust gas cleaning catalyst~~ according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 5~~ Claim 1, wherein the exhaust gas is an exhaust gas of an automobile ~~of a system~~ wherein a fuel is directly jetted into an engine, or of a system wherein a fuel is diluted and burned.

7-11. (Canceled)

12. (New) The honeycomb carrier according to claim 1, wherein the raw mixture comprises the alkali feldspar represented by the empirical formula  $(Na_yK_{1-y})AlSi_3O_8$  where y ranges from 0.15 to 0.85.

13. (New) The honeycomb carrier according to claim 1, wherein the raw mixture comprises the alkali feldspar in amounts in a range of 3 to 5 parts by mass.

14. (New) The honeycomb carrier according to claim 1, wherein the average particle size of the raw mixture is less than 10  $\mu m$ .

15. (New) The honeycomb carrier according to claim 1, wherein the average particle size of the raw mixture is in a range of 1 to 5  $\mu m$ .

16. (New) The honeycomb carrier according to claim 1, wherein the firing temperature is in a range of 1250 to 1450°C.

17. (New) The honeycomb carrier according to Claim 1, wherein the catalyst comprises potassium.

18. (New) The honeycomb carrier according to Claim 1, wherein said honeycomb carrier does not show a peak of  $KAlSiO_4$  in the vicinity of  $2\theta=28^\circ$  in X-ray diffraction measurement in comparison to a honeycomb carrier of aluminum magnesium titanate without the alkali feldspar after a test is carried out, wherein the test comprises dipping the honeycomb carriers in an aqueous potassium nitrate solution at a concentration of 1 mol/liter, drying them and holding them in a furnace maintained at a temperature of 900 °C for 100 hours.

19. (New) The honeycomb carrier according to Claim 1, wherein said honeycomb carrier does not show a peak of  $KAlSiO_4$  in the vicinity of  $2\theta=28^\circ$  in X-ray diffraction measurement in comparison to a honeycomb carrier of aluminum magnesium titanate without the alkali feldspar after a test is carried out, wherein the test comprises dipping the honeycomb carriers in an aqueous potassium nitrate solution at a concentration of 1 mol/liter, drying them and holding them in a furnace maintained at a temperature of 900 °C for 150 hours.

20. (New) The honeycomb carrier according to Claim 1, wherein said honeycomb carrier does not show a peak of  $KAlSiO_4$  in the vicinity of  $2\theta=28^\circ$  in X-ray diffraction measurement in comparison to a honeycomb carrier of aluminum magnesium titanate without the alkali feldspar after a test is carried out, wherein the test comprises dipping the honeycomb carriers in an aqueous potassium nitrate solution at a concentration of 1 mol/liter, drying them and holding them in a furnace maintained at a temperature of 900 °C for 200 hours.